From: Perman, Tim

To: 'Microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'

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Subject: Free markets - pretty simple concept

Resource allocation set by producers and buyers

The letter writer who argued for government action as the only method of preserving capitalism by regulating Microsoft sounds like Joel Klein and Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson -- misinformed. The Austrian school of economics points out that the allocation of resources in a market economy is determined by the actions of millions of producers and buyers. For any judge or attorney to question this is ludicrous.

Understanding the above, you will also be able to understand that the only monopolies that can possibly exist are government-granted monopolies. The U.S. Postal Service may be the most anti-consumer company in America. Rising costs, slower delivery -- that is a monopoly. In this state you need only visit a liquor store (with perhaps inconvenient hours and most likely out-of-the-way locations) to understand how a monopoly can treat consumers. Klein says that he "will debate any Libertarian, anywhere, anytime" on the subject of monopolies. As a member of the Libertarian Party, I am proud to say that I share Klein's disdain for monopolies. As the person who is forced to pay both Klein and Jackson, I am outraged that they do not understand simple free-market economics. As a Microsoft shareholder, I hope that the company defends capitalistic freedom with the determination that the Founding Fathers of this country did.

Thomas Hobbes wrote, "There are few so foolish that they had not rather govern themselves than be governed by others." True capitalism can exist only without fools in power. If Klein wants to debate this, bring the fool on.

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